



## Universal Service Administrative Company

D. Scott Barash  
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October 16, 2002

### VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: In the Matter of Schools and Libraries  
Universal Service Support Mechanism, WCB Docket 02-6

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The staff of the Wireline Competition Bureau requested information from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) about the likely impact on Priority 1 demand were the Commission to conclude that voice mail is an eligible telecommunication service under the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism.

In 2001, USAC surveyed a number of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers for information about the percent of the phone bills for schools and libraries that represented the costs of ineligible services. The companies used different sampling methods to respond, but the responses were generally consistent: voice mail accounted for 2% to 3% of these customers' phone bills. Based on this survey, USAC believes it is safe to say that voice mail eligibility would not increase demand for Priority 1 funding by more than 3%, and likely much less because Priority 1 services include such non-POTS services as video connections, T1 for Internet access, and on-premises equipment.

Marlene H. Dortch

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We hope this information will be helpful to the Commission. We will be happy to provide any additional information concerning this matter at your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Scott Barash". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "D. Scott" and last name "Barash" clearly distinguishable.

D. Scott Barash

Vice President and General Counsel

cc: Mark Seifert, Deputy Chief  
Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau